

## Program Description

The Children's Health Outreach Initiative (CHOI) is the unit that administers contracts with community-based agencies, cities, and schools to expand health coverage for children in Los Angeles County. These contracted agencies conduct outreach in the community and provide comprehensive health coverage enrollment services to uninsured families. Agencies not only assist clients with applications for programs such as Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, Healthy Kids, and other low and no-cost health coverage programs, but also troubleshoot application problems and help clients with difficulties utilizing their program benefits.

## Important Things to Know

- Approximately 1 in 4 children under 18 in Los Angeles County are uninsured.
- The lack of adequate health insurance is the most important barrier impacting children's access to health services in Los Angeles County.
- Compared to children with health insurance, children without health insurance are less likely to see a physician for regular care including immunization and other services.
- Uninsured families tend to rely on emergency rooms for their regular source of care and go without needed medical care for acute and chronic health conditions such as ear infections, throat infections, and asthma.

For more information, please call (213) 637-8460 or visit <http://lapublichealth.org/mch> and click on Children's Health Outreach Initiative.



